

4/9/07

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 9, 2007**

ATTENDEES:

Members:

Sue M. Adams
William P. Allen, PhD
Mary S. Bevard-Cline, Rec. Sec.
Rae Ann Butler
Harold A. Ehart, Jr., Chair
Judy Hallman
Lloyd Hoover
Alan E. Imhoff, Alderman
Ona M. John Kile
Louise Lynch
Margaret Nusbaum
Burt Shawver
Susan Shelton
Anna Mary Snyder

Excused

Collier Baird
Earl S. Beck, PhD
Charles A. Jenkins,
Commissioner
Bernice Sewell
Carolyn True

Unexcused:

Guests:

Robert Wannemacher,
AARP
Mindy Lohman-Hinz
Mary Collins
Nena Tierney

- I. **Call to Order** – Hal Ehart, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions** – Hal Ehart welcomed all attendees and introductions/affiliations were then made.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** –Raeann Butler requested a correction to the minutes to reflect that Edenton does not have skilled nursing nor do they accept Medicare or Medicaid. Her response was in representation of her company's experience with the resident census and payor source. With those changes, Alderman Alan Imhoff made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2007 meeting; Judy Hallman seconded the motion. Vote to approve was unanimous.
- IV. **Commissioner's Comments** – No report as Commissioner Jenkins is attending a meeting in Mt. Airy, MD.
- V. **Presentation about upcoming series "Navigating the Nursing Home Journey" – by Mindy Lohman-Hinz and Mary Collins.** Mindy indicated that she is one of the Caregiver Program Coordinators. She distributed a brochure that outlines the Caregiver Support Program, those who can benefit and the type of services included in the program. There have been several monthly support group meetings with other agencies. There is a respite stipend of \$250.00 for short-term relief for in home or facility services. Mary Collins distributed the "Navigating the Nursing Home Journey" brochures that indicate the date of upcoming sessions. This is a joint program with the Ombudsmen and Caregiver Programs. Most calls from family members are about clarification of processes in lieu of conflict resolution. We are looking at how we can help families proactively. No two cases are the same. This is a very emotional process and it is easy to become saturated in the process. A brainstorm session was held to determine the development of a survey, which was sent via the county email system. 70 responses were received which

contained rich information. From that, 4 concrete issues that are important to families were developed into 4 sessions. They included such things as who are a CNA, GNA, Med Tech, what are the facilities processes, does the client have to eat what is provided, do they have choices in decisions being made, etc.? The also expressed clarification of communications, use of chemical/physical restraints, wandering, battering, emotional reactions such as guilt, grief, relief, learning how to visit, how to be a parent to your parent, etc. Support will be a by-product of these programs. Letters has been sent to the nursing home administrators for they buy-in so this will be a win-win situation. Meetings have been held with admissions staff and social workers. There will be an evaluation at the conclusion of this program to tweak it as needed. 10 persons have registered to date. Susan Adams questioned if this is a one-time program and recommended offering this on a quarterly basis. Mary stated that all facilities have information at their on sites and it is also included in their billing process. We are currently discouraging facility staff participation to avoid putting a family on the spot should their love one is in that facility. Several questions were asked regarding the inclusion of assisted living facilities in the future, Hospice Care, family counseling, etc.? Mary indicated that there are different regulations that the various facilities must adhere to and that these concerns will be addressed as the program expands. It was noted that there are 11 nursing homes and 17 assisted living facilities in Frederick County.

- VI. **Committee Reports** - Hal Ehart reminded everyone of the upcoming annual luncheon and distributed invitations and a sign up sheet. Burt Shawver reviewed the luncheon menu of soup, salad, bread, tea and coffee. Hal requested everyone to wear the "No Senior Left Behind" buttons at this event.

Judy Hallman indicated that she met with the 7th grade Thurmont School students who are interested in helping seniors. They are working with Best Buy to donate computers and a large screen TV and with the town for hookup to the Internet. Judy mentioned a news article was discussed that indicated that at the end of 2005, 22% of seniors 65 and older live without a computer. There are many seniors that want to learn how to use a computer so they may communicate with the children. Louise Lynch highly recommended the ILR classes at FCC. Susan Adams indicated that they would be offering some classes at the Urbana Senior Center. Courses are available at the Frederick Senior Center as well. They are also available to work with businesses in assisting older adults in the work force.

Margaret Nusbaum stated the budget appeal hearings have been handled for the first time for the new BOCC. A request for a dedicated revenue source for affordable housing was submitted. The Housing Department is rolling out a program in seeking bids for a one time, one million seed money program. Due to cuts in grants, the county is absorbing funds for the replacement of fleet vehicles. Appeal is \$556,000. Two new positions were submitted – 1 grants writer and 1 loans processor in Housing Department. Portions of

positions have become unfunded. Tune into to Channel 19 for a live presentation.

Margaret made the board aware that Lydell Scott, Human Relations Director, will be retiring May 2007.

Emily Kilby distributed the Partners in Care newsletter. It was noted that Burt Shawver did his first gig today. Robert Wannemacher is also involved in this program.

VII. **Director's Report** – Susan Shelton indicated that the MOW 5K run netted a profit of \$5,000.

VIII. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

NEXT MEETING: May 14, 2007, Annual Luncheon at 12:00 Noon at Homewood at Crumland Farms, 7407 Willow Road, Frederick, MD. Speaker is The Honorable Gloria G. Lawlah, Secretary, MD Dept. of Aging

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Bevard-Cline,
Recording Secretary